



May 6, 2008

Kim O'Connor
Governor's Office for Children, Youth and Families
Division for Substance Abuse Policy
1700 W. Washington, Suite 101
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Dear Kim:

On behalf of the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services at the U.S. Department of Justice, the Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and Strategic Applications International, the grant recipient of a methamphetamine training and technical assistance award from the Department of Justice, I am pleased to announce that the Division for Substance Abuse Policy and the state of Arizona have been selected to participate in the Eight-State Combat Methamphetamine Initiative. Other participating states include Nevada, Utah, Idaho, Hawai'i, Kentucky, Indiana and Florida.

Arizona's selection was based on the outstanding work accomplished by the Governor's Methamphetamine Task Force and the Arizona Substance Abuse Partnership (ASAP). The Governor's *Plan for Action* has emerged as a national model in program and policies to combat methamphetamine. ASAP with its emphasis on strategic focus areas will help guide and influence other states as they develop a coordinated and a data driven strategy to respond to substance abuse in their states.

For participating in this initiative, Arizona will be able to access cross-site meetings and conferences aimed at sharing best practices and model policies; the state will have an active page on methpedia.org and will be able to celebrate the accomplishments of both ASAP and the Methamphetamine Task Force; the Division will be able to utilize technical assistance consultants, trainers, and resources from around the country to advance particular strategies, and the state will be able to access speakers and other resources from participating federal agencies. Of particular value will be the ability to participate in the Eight-State Forum which will be a policy laboratory to test strategic ideas for combating methamphetamine and developing a comprehensive statewide strategy to prevent and treat substance abuse in the States.

We welcome you and your leadership to this exciting initiative. We look forward to working with you over the next 18 months. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 301-455-0654.

Sincerely,

James E. Copple
Principal and Grant Administrator

We pursue great ideas, promote action, and effect change with demonstrated results.

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